

Arizona takes step toward turning criminal justice data into actionable information

By: Guest Opinion April 20, 2021



Arizona, like the majority of states around our nation, has placed an emphasis on reviewing standing laws and policies that govern our state's criminal justice systems in order to promote greater equity and fairness for our citizens.

As part of this call for action, there has been a growing demand by policymakers and special interest groups that criminal justice agencies begin reporting data. Arizona is not alone in that the calls for what criminal justice data should be collected has been like trying to listen to who can shout the

We use cookies on our website to give you the most relevant experience by remembering your preferences and repeat visits. By clicking "Accept", you consent to the use of ALL the cookies.

[Cookie settings](#)



Andrew LeFevre

advantage. Well, government is just about the worst kind of organization with its many siloed departments and levels that make the integration and fusion of data all the more difficult.

That is why the Arizona Legislature and Gov. Doug Ducey should be applauded for their foresight in passing and signing House Bill 2166 into law.

This law will designate the Arizona Criminal Justice Commission as the central collection agency for criminal justice data for the state and will require commission to conduct a comprehensive survey of data from criminal justice agencies across the state to create a state criminal justice

data inventory report identifying what data is housed at each type of agency.

Through this effort, Arizona will be establishing a first-of-its-kind comprehensive understanding of the criminal justice data that is being collected and thus establish the foundation for what data can and should be reported to better inform policymakers, researchers, and the public.

We use cookies on our website to give you the most relevant experience by remembering your preferences and repeat visits. By clicking "Accept", you consent to the use of ALL the cookies.

[Cookie settings](#)

justice agencies that can be reported out via a web-based platform – much like the commission’s current Data Visualization Center does on our website.

The net result of HB2166 will be to give Arizona the best chance at creating a process that will lead to long-term success in collecting criminal justice data in a way that allows policymakers to turn data into information upon which they can make sound policy decisions.

As Arizona looks ahead to the future, we should recognize that while this is a critical step in the right direction, this is only the first step in creating better criminal justice reform practices.

– *Andrew T. LeFevre is executive director for the Arizona Criminal Justice Commission.*

Issue: [ARIZONA CRIMINAL JUSTICE COMMISSION](#) [CRIMINAL JUSTICE](#) [DATA](#) [DATA COLLECTION](#) [LEGISLATURE](#)

YOU MIGHT ALSO LIKE



From high school dropout to college graduate: Goodwill



Set aside the politics – our schools and



SB1411 – not HB2805 – wisely moves Arizona’s



Lawmakers should heed voters, education is

We use cookies on our website to give you the most relevant experience by remembering your preferences and repeat visits. By clicking “Accept”, you consent to the use of ALL the cookies.

[Cookie settings](#) [ACCEPT](#)

Election integrity
shouldn't be a
partisan issue

© April 16, 2021

Flat tax plan
inadvertently hurts
public safety

© April 16, 2021

Copyright © 2021 Arizona Capitol Times 1835 W. Adams Street, Phoenix, AZ 85007 (602) 258-7026

/* code for tag simpli.fi */

We use cookies on our website to give you the most relevant experience by remembering your preferences and repeat visits. By clicking “Accept”, you consent to the use of ALL the cookies.

[Cookie settings](#)